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Date of FAX 8-3-04

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Signature: **PATENT APPLICATION
DOCKET NO. 10991816-1**

**IN THE
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

INVENTOR(S): John R. McVey et al**CONFIRMATION NO.:** 4745**SERIAL NO.** 09/541,771**GROUP ART UNIT:** 2622**FILED:** April 3, 2000**EXAMINER:** Lamb, Twyler Marie**SUBJECT:** A METHOD AND DEVICE FOR IMPROVING UTILIZATION OF A BUS

**MAIL STOP RCE
THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231**

SIR:

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.114
AMENDMENT C**

In response to the office action (Paper No. 7) mailed on June 15, 2004, which was a final rejection, the Applicant respectfully requests amendment of the application as follows in this request for continued examination.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may be otherwise provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this office action response, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees or net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

A claim listing begins on page 2 of this response.

Remarks begin on page 11 of this response.